IN THE BEGINNING

Published Quarterly By
Woodson County Historical Society
Yates Center, Kansas
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IN THE BEGINNING

Vol. 18-No. 72 October, 1985

Lester A. Harding, Editor

Editor's Notes — Another year has passed and another volume has been published. To those who want their copies of **"IN THE BEGINNING"** bound into a hardback book for the years of 1984 and 1985, (Volumes 17 and 18), we would like for them to be sent or given to us by Nov. 15th, 1985 so we can get them and others to the binders. We do not know just what they will cost this year as they have been higher each two years.

If there are others who have not had their quarterlies bound and wish to do so may get in contact with the Editor. It takes 8 (two years) of In The Beginning to make a book.

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This picture is of a hay crew of about 1912-13, that lived in the Burt-Finney vicinity. The tall man in the center is Fred Holmquest, who was at the head of the crew. On his right is his brother Henry. We would like for someone to identify the rest of the crew. We believe that the one on the right end to be Louis Peake. We believe that they were baling hay for Joe Steiner at this time.

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$4.00 per year $1.00 per copy.

WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Organized March, 1965

For the first time since the Society was organized there was no meeting of the Woodson County Historical Society in July. When the Society was first organized a picnic dinner would be held at the shelter house at the City Reservoir. These were held on July 4th and would be well attended.

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The way it looks now we will start another year of **In The Beginning**, starting in January, 1986.

So if any of our 500 subscribers want to renew their subscription by or before January 1, 1986 that will be fine.

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IN MEMORIAN

J.C.Schnell 97 July 1985.

Mr. Schnell was born in Woodson County and had spent over 90 years in the county. He held a Life Membership in the Woodson County Historical Society. He was an active member and attended most every meeting until his health failed him. For quite some time Jim was known as the "Banana Man," as he passed out hundreds of pounds of bananas at nursing homes in Yates Center and Iola. At every meeting of the Historical Society Jim would pass out after dinner mints.

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Our cover picture this issue is one of much activity during prairie hay baling time. For quite a few years, the picture shows several hay crews at one of the large hay barns at Batesville. Batesville was more of a tent community during the haying season. At one time there was a depot at Batesville, a couple of stores, large scales and several large hay barns. The Bayer Hay Co. had a small building at their scales. Many farmers moved into tents during the summer to make some ready cash to help carry them through the winter.

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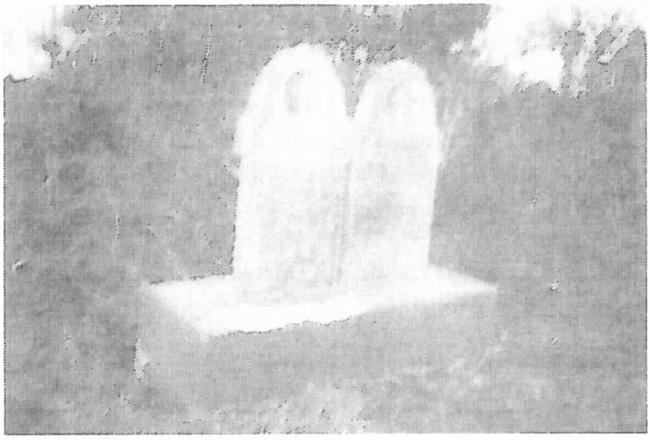
Join and support the
WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
Life Membership $25.00 Regular Membership $2.00

PATRICK and MARGARET LEE—

In the northwest corner of the St. Mary's Owl Creek Catholic Cemetery are the grave stones of Patrick Lee and his wife Margaret Lee. For years these two graves stood in this corner, seemingly not a part of the rest of the cemetery. They fell over and became almost unknown from the rest of this early day Catholic burying place.

Patrick and Margaret Lee were both natives of the state of Virginia. Patrick was said to be an uncle of Gen. Robert E. Lee, of the Civil War fame. Patrick and Margaret had a daughter Bridget Lee who married Patrick Fitzmorris, an early settler first along Owl Creek and later moved to along Big Sandy, just over the Wilson County line, northeast of Coyville.



The grave stones of Patrick and Margaret Lee as they appear today. This cemetery was first started in 1868, when the St. Mary's Church was built here.

Patrick Lee died January 25, 1869 at the age of 78 years.

Margaret died December 26, 1870 at the age of 63 years.

Patrick and Bridget Fitzmorris were the parents of four boys, John, William, and Edward. One whose name we did not learn was killed in a runaway, as a youth.

William Fitzmorris married Fannie Hemley. They had two children, Patrick and Ada. Ada married Harold Wright. It was Ada Wright who furnished this information about the Lee family. She also had Cloy Taulbe, of Yates Center to make the cement block to hold the twin stones of the Lee's at the Owl Creek Cemetery.

DAILY CHAUTAUQUA EDITION

Woodson County Advocate, Yates Center, KS June 28, 1912.

A better place could not be found for Chautauqua than Lincoln Park. Its only five blocks from the square and a nice shady walk all the way. The park has been over hauled and cleaned up beautifully and the grass is beautiful. Sufficient seats to nearly seat the town have been built in the cool shade.

The large playgrounds on the east side of the park are great. Put rompers on the children and send them down.They will be under the care of Helen B. Paulson, who is noted for her work with children.

The large tent in which the entertainment will take place is located in the northwest corner of the park. The tent is large and raised high to make it as cool as possible. It has a seating capacity for 1500 people, with the seats well arranged to see and hear.

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The Woodson County Advocate issued a daily paper to give the daily program and other news of the Chatauqua, with many ads from the various merchants.

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The Yates Center Chautauqua opened Friday afternoon June 28, with an attendance of 700 people.

During the Chautauqua and stockshow, barns will be open and men in charge, who will rent stalls and water for the accomodation of the public at the following prices; for stall and water for a single horse .15¢, and for a stall and water for a team of two horses .25¢. You will furnish your own feed.

Some of the business men in Yates Center objected to the Chautauqua being held in Lincoln Park because of the distance from the square.

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Yates Center celebrated its July 4th with the celebrities and spent the day safely and sanely with Victor's Royal Italian Guards Band. All day Lincoln Park was filled with hundreds of people who came to enjoy the big musical treat and find complete happiness in the pretty little park.

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July 5, 1912- (The highlight of the Chautauqua was to be the coming of Wm. Jennings Bryan.)

Ever since the Chautauqua started there has been some uneasiness among those holding season tickets as to whether Mr. Bryan would fill his date here as advertised. Those " I told you so" folk will now be obliged to go way back and sit down,

especially if they attend the big speech tomorrow at 3 o'clock p.m. If they get there late it will be standup, however, as the seating capacity will not hold out long.

THE BIG BRYAN DAY—

Mr. Bryan was unable to fill his date on Friday as had been advertised, and came on Saturday , twenty-four hours late and addressed the largest crowd of the Chautauqua.

Shortly afternoon arrangements were made by about sixty of our business men to meet Mr. Bryan on his way here from Fredonia by auto and escort him into the city. Fifteen automobiles lined up at the postoffice and started southward and met the distinquished party about four miles from the city and escorted them into and through the city.

Mr. Bryan spoke for about two hours to an audience estimated at from 2,000 to 2,500. By request gave a short account of the two great national conventions of 1912, after which he delivered his lecture "The Sign of the Times."

People came by train and auto from many surrounding towns to hear the noted speaker and the event closed the biggest week Yates Center has ever had.

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The majority of the people have spoken in regard to a Chautauqua for next year. It has been the most popular event we have ever had. 550 season tickets have already been contracted for and 150 more could be sold during the next few weeks the tickets could be had for $2.00 for the season instead of the $2.50.

Wm. Jennings Bryan

THE ASKREN FAMILY—

Over a period of several years we have written quite a lot about the Askren families, but at the time we had not been able to get pictures. We have some pictures now so I will tell about some we have written about and some we haven't. In looking back we find that it has been 17 years this April since we wrote the story of these folks. We have many readers who have never read it and probably more who have forgotten it.

It was along in the spring of 1859 that a covered wagon slowly making its way across the prairie following the wagon trail from LeRoy to Eureka. The trees were beginning to leaf out and the prairies were greening up.

The spring fed branch that started in the low hills to the north and ran into Turkey Creek about a quarter mile south of where the people in the wagon decided to stop for the night. The men led the tired oxen to the stream that the men soon discovered to have running water from some springs along the waters edge. This ended their trip from Logan Co. Ohio.

In the wagon that stopped here were David Askren, his wife Charlotte Alexandra and a very small daughter that had been given the name of Elizabeth but most alway went by the name of Libby. Also in the group was Davids younger brother John S. Askren.

Near where a spring of cold water surfaced close to the stream they built their log cabin. Good-sized black walnut and oak trees were cut down and "snaked" to the cabin site about 100 feet up grade from where the spring surfaced. The cabin was about 16 feet square. The logs were squared to around 8 and 10 inches square, and notched to fit together on the corners.

The door was built on the east side while the fire place was built on the west side. They "chinked" and filled in between with a homemade morter that looked like the red sandy soil nearby. Wherever there was a crack between the logs, a piece was split of another log and fitted in place and held there with a round peg that was driven into a hole bored in the log.

The large native sandstone fireplace was quite a piece of masonary itself. The base of the fireplace was a rock about six by three feet on the outside before it began to narrow down to about three to a foot and half at the top. The entire fireplace was about sixteen feet high. The hearth-stone was about six by three feet on the inside.

The old iron crane with a pot hook on one end and the other end embedded in a groove in the south side. The bottom part of the old fire place was made mostly of smaller stones, while nearer the top some of the stones must have weighed a hundred pounds.

Not too many years after the cabin was built a room was built on to the south side of the log cabin and it was all covered with ship-lap board siding.

David and Charlotte Askren were parents of five children. Two infants died in infancy, one on 7-11-1865 and the other 4-15-1871. This was evidently the beginning of the Askren Cemetery. Other children were Elizabeth, John William, Charlotte and Margaret.

John William Askren was born in the log cabin in Febuary of 1860 and was evidently the first white child to be born on upper Turkey Creek. Will, as he was called by relatives never married and died January 10, 1892 at the age of 32 years.

Libby was about two years old when they came to Woodson County. During the 1880's she taught several terms in the rural schools of Woodson County. She was married to Rueben Thomas Dawson in June 1883. For a while they lived in a small house over on Jordon Creek. In June 1888 Libby died in childbirth at the age of 31. The baby died also. They are buried in the Askren Cemetery as is R. Tom Dawson.

Margaret was born in the log cabin and died January 10, 1873 at the age of 12 years.

Charlotte, "Lottie" was also born in the log cabin in 1868. She passed away in 1921 at age of 55 years. She was married to John Klingenberg January 4, 1891. They had nine children, four of them dieing in infancy— David R., Wilbur M., Audrey, Fred D., and Ruth Charlotte.

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The picture of the Askren family was taken at the old homestead. The part of the house where the young lady is standing is the entrance to the log cabin. The one standing in the doorway is Charlotte, next to her is her brother John Will Askren, next is Elizabeth, "Libby." Seated are the parents, Charlotte and David Askren with the family pet posing between them. The man seated on the left we believe to be Isaac Askren , the man in back of him is unknown. The other man standing we believe to be R. Tom Dawson.

HISTORY OF LITTLE SANDY SCHOOL DIST.# 60 JT

The plot of ground for the Little Sandy School was chosen in 1870. School had been held in a log cabin, a quarter mile east of the present location.

The first school term began in May 1871, and lasted three months. One member of the first board was Madison Frame. Miss Kate Riggs was th first teacher. Few books were had in those days. Several children used hymn books and religious papers from the church.

The earlier terms of school were of the subscription type; each family paid according to the number of pupils they sent. After a school was established a certain length of time the district received aid from the state. Some early teachers were; Kate Riggs, Emma Blackman, Mr. White, Milt Jewett, Tom Howe, Lizzie Davis and William Taylor.

In 1890 the present building was erected by William Henry Cannon of Buffalo, Kansas. In 1930 it was remodeled and a cloak room added to it. Little Sandy boasts of a good well that hardly ever fails even in a drought. At one time this district included a part of what is now Liberal Hill District. This seperation was made about the time the new building was built.

A great part of this land had not yet been homesteaded until as late as 1890. Some of the early houses were hay sheds. Wood was the main fuel, and it was said that the fire was built on the bare dirt floor and kept the house warm with out accident. The 3 rail type of fence was used.

Because of the low level of the land this district is reffered to as "The Valley." at one time it was called "Vining Valley," because of the many Vinings who lived here. What is now known as the "Herb Spring" was once called the Vining Spring, and was a well known stopping place for travelers. Later it was called "Puckett Valley." Several families of Pucketts moved here about 1874 from the Kaw River Valley. Most of them had large families and it wasn't long until you were safe in telling a stranger who was traveling this valley that if he met a man say, " Good Day Mr. Puckett." He had nine chances out of ten in being right. Only three Puckett families now live in the district. As a Baptist Church it is often referred to as Pleasant Valley, but the legal name is Little Sandy.

Most of this information was obtained from Mr. H. A. Nichols who lived three miles east of Little Sandy. He has owned his home there for 53 years and has lived on it for over 50 years.

This was written by Mrs. Thelma Muzingo, who was the teacher at Little Sandy for four years in 1933.

The teacher at the Little Sandy School, Dist. #60 Jt. with the term starting Sept. 5, 1933 was Miss Elsie Puckett. Pupils enrolled that year as shown by the teacher's report to the Dist. Court, for one teacher school's were; Leota Mae Barney, Imogene Herb, Margaretta Reynard, Norma Stroud, June Wilson, Phillip Launsbury, Kenneth and Leonard Barney, Ralph Puckett, Paul Berchefeldt, Dorothy Lounsbury, Junior McCool and Bud Wallis.

Little Sandy School

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Odds and Ends

Dr. Andrew Jackson Lieurance died March 3, 1939. He came to Neosho Falls in 1885. He had a drug store for several years. In 1889 he married Lena Curtis, their children are Dean Thurlow, Dr. Ed., George, Mrs Leora Learned, Richard, and Robert.

He was born Sept. 22, 1852 near Greenbush, Ill. His parents were Rev George and Amanda Lieurance. He received a degree in medicine at Penn College at Oskloosa, Iowa.

Gus Fell died March 11, 1939. When a young man he was a member of the Chicago White Sox baseball team. He played shortstop and the Evangelist Billy Sunday played second base.

LIBRARY OF
LESTER A. HARDING
YATES CENTER, KANSAS

(Reprint from Congressional Record—now printed at Government Expense)

PEOPLE OF AMERICA:—

In every community get together at once and organize a:

SHARE OUR WEALTH SOCIETY

MOTTO:

EVERY MAN A KING

PRINCIPLES AND PLATFORM:

1. To limit poverty by providing that every deserving family shall share in the wealth of America for not less than one-third of the average wealth, thereby to possess not less than $5,000, free of debt.

2. To limit fortunes to such a few million dollars as will allow the balance of the American people to share in the wealth and profits of the land.

3. Old Age Pensions of $30. per month to persons over 60 years of age who do not earn as much as $1,000. per year or who possess less than $10,000. in cash or property, thereby to remove from the field of labor, in times of unemployment, those who have contributed their share to the public service.

4. *To limit the hours* of work to such an extent as to prevent over-production and to give the workers of America some share in the recreations, conveniences and luxuries of life.

5. To balance agricultural production with what can be sold and consumed according to the laws of God, which have never failed.

6. To care for the Veterans of our wars.

7. Taxation to run the government to be supported, first, by reducing big fortunes from the top, thereby to improve the country and provide employment in public works whenever agricultural surplus is such as to render unnecessary, in whole or in part, any particular to get a home for those who have already lost their own.

To explain the title, motto and principles of such a society, I give the full information, viz:—

TITLE: "Share Our Wealth Society" is simply to mean that God's creatures on this lovely American continent have a right to share in the wealth they have created in this country. They have the right to a living, with the conveniences and some of the luxuries of this life so long as there are too many or enough for all. They have a right to raise their children in a healthy, wholesome atmosphere and to educate them, rather than to face the dread of their undernourishment and sadness by being denied a real life.

MOTTO: "Every Man a King" conveys the great plan of God and of the Declaration of Independence which said: "All men are created equal." It conveys that no one man is the Lord of another, but that from the head to the foot of every man is carried his sovereignty.

Now, to cover the principles of the Share Our Wealth Society, I give them in order:

1. To Limit Poverty.

We propose that a deserving family shall share in our wealth of America at least for one-third the average. An average family is slightly less than 5 persons. The number has become less during depression. The United States week and still produce enough for everybody, then praised be the name of the Lord. Heaven would be coming nearer to earth. All of us could return to school a few months every year to learn some things they have found out since we were there; all could be gentlemen; "Every Man a King."

5. To Balance Agricultural Production with Consumption:

About the easiest of all things to do when financial masters and market manipulators step aside and let work the law of the Lord. When we have a supply of anything that is more than we can use for a year or two, just stop planting that particular crop for a year either in all the country or in a part of it. Let the government take over and store the surplus for the next year. If there is not something else for the farmers to plant or some other work for them to do to live on for the year when the crop is banned, then let that be the year for the public works to be done in the section where the farmers need work. There is plenty of it to do and taxes off of the big fortunes at the top will supply plenty of money without hurting anybody. In time we would have the people not struggling to raise so much when all were well fed and clothed. Distribution of wealth almost solves the whole problem without further trouble.

The Share Our Wealth Society was promoted by Senator Huey P. Long of Louisiana, during the early 1930's when times were very hard for most people with the Great Depression and the Drought of the Dirty Thirties. One of these societies was organized at the Nikkletown School House 14 miles northwest of Yates Center. S. C. Cowles who lived across the road from the school house was the leader of this society. We never learned how many members they had. In our Prairie Life items of spring, 1935, we mentioned about the Share Our Wealth at Nikkeltown and the Topeka Capital made a remark about it in the Kansas Notes.

MRS. MAYBELLE BARTLETT died at the family home, 512 South Buckeye, Iola, yesterday afternoon. The funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at the residence. Rev. Moomaw of the Christian Church will have charge of the services. Burial will be in the Highland Cemetery. Mrs. Bartlett is survived by a husband, Mr. Isaac Bartlett and two children, James Bartlett and Mrs. Wm. Ledgerwood, and a mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Irwin, who reside on South Buckeye. —Iola Register, Nov. 26, 1915.

Isaac Bartlett is a brother of Jacob Bartlett of Yates Center and the family resided here for many years. Of the immediate relatives in Yates Center, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Bartlett, Mrs. Art Geary, Mrs. Joe Reno and Mrs. Lizzie Burger attended the funeral.

YATES CENTER NEWS — August 11, 1899 —

Situated in the Yates Center is one of the finest little private hospitals to be found in the state. The building a stone structure was erected about 3 years ago. The upper floor is devoted to rooms and the lower floor contains a set of offices which are seperated into commodious reception rooms, private offices and operating rooms. The owner Dr. E. K. Kellenberger is quite an enthusist in his art.

SEPT. 15, 1899 —

The workmen at the courthouse refused to go to work Monday morning. They had been working 10 hours a day, but the State Commissioner notified them that they need only work 8 hours to get 10 hours of pay and they got it. So peace reigns once more and work is progressing, but how long no one knows.

DO UNTO OTHERS WHAT YOU WOULD HAVE OTHERS DO UNTO YOU is the motto carved on the county courthouse over the door, and yet the very building of it is causing more trouble and strife than was ever in Woodson County before.

A TRAGIC SCENE was enacted 7 miles south of here near Rose, September 5, 1899. A freight train running 20 miles per hour crashed into a light spring wagon containing three children of Fred Upson, and Dan son of Gus Upton, brother of Fred, killing Bessie age 9, and seriously if not fatally injuring two others, Clarence age 7, and Ethel age 11. Dan being older saved his life by jumping. One of the horses was killed outright and the wagon wrecked. The scene of the accident was just at the crossing one mile south of Rose. The road was thickly hedged on both sides.

WATERSHED OF WOODSON CO.
Continued from No. 71

This ditch straight south between sections 19 and 20, Twp. 23 R. 17, to the Neosho River. Down through a period of over 100 years Spogey Ditch has widened and deepened into a good-sized drain, although it still goes in the same straight line that Spogey and his oxen made it. Still draining that large area.

One of the few streams that originate in another county is Spring Creek, that comes from the north out of Coffey Co. As this creek comes into Woodson Co. it is through the swampy area northeast of Neosho Falls that Spring Creek winds and runs in a very crooked line. It probably winds over four miles to get about two miles as the crow flys. This stream crossed the road east of Neosho Falls three times in about a half mile until the new bridge was built. Two of these crossings were eliminated. It enters the east side of the Neosho River just to the southeast of Neosho Falls.

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To complete the streams in the north part of the county we will go to the northwest corner where South Big Creek drains about 12 or 13 sections of Woodson County. This area that drains from this county into Coffey County has all been surveyed and mapped by the Soil Conservation Service as it is a part of the Big Creek watershed of Coffey, Wooodson and part of Greenwood counties.

We would like to tell a story that was told to us years ago about an incident that happened on this creek in this county. It was about the year 1882, that a covered wagon pulled by a team of horses, left the Burlington-Eureka wagon trail that crossed the northwest corner of the county and took a wagon trail that ran rather parallel with this branch of Big Creek . For a considerable distance from the northeast. This wagon trail crossed Big Creek just to the south of the present large ranch house on the Maclaskey Ranch. This however was quite some time before the Maclaskey's lived along Big Creek. The trail passed through the old Van Horn Ranch, skirting around the "bad lands" at the head of Dry Creek.

The driver of this wagon was urging his team to their best as he glanced back into the wagon where his wife was bending over a sick boy. The name of this family was Blackburn, and they were headed for the home of a relative near Quincy.

Spring rains had swelled upper Big Creek and the trail crossing was very muddy, but Blackburn drove his tired team into the water. The wagon mired down in the creek bed and in an attempt to make them pull it out the horses floundered and broke the wagon tongue. The man knew that he would have to have help and the little boy seemed to be getting worse. The Atherly homestead about three miles down the creek (about two miles due south of Gridley) was the last house Blackburn remembered passing. In desperation the man ran to the top of the hill that rose from the south bank of South Branch of Big Creek.

On a hill about a mile south and some west he spied a small house. Calling to his wife, the man struck across the prairie toward the house. As he approached the house he saw a man plowing nearby with a yoke of oxen. The driver of the oxen was a well-built man of Scotch descent— James Maclaskey who was one of the first settlers to build a cabin on the prairie in northwest Woodson County. Maclaskey and his family had come there in 1880, and homesteaded in the northeast quarter of section 30 Twp. 23, R. 14. No doubt Maclaskey did much wondering as he watched the stranger coming hurriedly across the prairie afoot.

The time, no doubt seemed very long to the mother in the wagon for by this time she probably realized that her little boy was dieing. With the help of the oxen the wagon was pulled from the muddy creek.

With the pioneer hospitality the Blackburns were invited to put up at the Maclaskey home, but too much time had been lost before the family reached the Maclaskey home. The little boy had passed away. The next morning Maclaskey and Blackburn made another trip to Big Creek. This time a large walnut tree was cut down and a part was cut and hewed into a rough casket. Again the two men with other members of the families left the Maclaskey home going to a little cemetery somewhere along Big Creek, taking the boy to his final resting place on theKansas prairie.

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Gathering water in sections 11 and 12 Twp. 24, R. 13 in northwest corner of the county is a stream that goes west into Greenwood County. This stream is called Foster Branch, from the owner of the Foster Ranch, that was located just across the county line in Greenwood. This branch goes to the west and south emptying into the Verdigris River just south of Virgil. This branch and ranch was named for Foster, but for many years it was the headquarters for the Jim Dye Ranch, and is now a part of the Kimbell Ranch. A large detention dam and pond that covers several acres of water is on this stream over in Greenwood Co.

SAMUEL J. COPE AND FAMILY —

Samuel Cope was born in Clarion Co. Pennsylvania and grew up in that vicinity. His parents were Jeremiah and Anna Graff Cope. Under the direction of his father, Samuel learned the cabinet and carpenter trade. He spent several years in the building business in Oil City, Penn.

On September 2, 1871 Samuel was married to Miss Susan Wilcox, a native of the same state. After five years there they decided that in order to have a good home of their own they would have to go where land was cheaper so in 1876 they came west and to Woodson County.

After renting a farm and farming for a year he decided to start a home of his own. He purchased first the west half of the northwest quarter of Sec. 36, Twp. 24 R. 14 from the State of Kansas, (school land) for $260.00. Later adding the other 80 acres of the N. W. quarter. This was raw prairie land. A small cabin was necessary to live in until the contract was filled.

Samuel and Susan Cope were parents of eight children, Anna, Alice, Jennie, Lottie, Loretta, Clinton, Edith and Judge.

School Dist. 62 was named for Mr. Cope and still goes by that name. The first school house in that community was built on the southwest corner of Samuel Cope's homestead, and later moved to about three-fourths of a mile west of the Cope corner and again moved back to a place across the road from the Cope home.

Most of the Cope children married locally that we will name.

About 1890 Mr. Cope decided to try his luck at the gold mining business, going to Colorado. He spent a part of his time mining and other work between trips back to his home. He spent about nine years mining and operating a sawmill. He made several trips back and forth. On one trip he drove his small ponies in an open buggy.

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The children of Samuel and Susan — Anna married Asa W. Miller. Their children were Melvin M., Loretta, Elmer T., Margaret, Thelma and Clifford.

Melvin M. married Fannie McCormick, their children were Alvin, Norman and Bernice.

Loretta married Wm. P. Peters. They had one daughter Verna Mae.

Elmer T. married Nellie Magraffen. Their children were Marjorie Ellen and Asa. The latter dieing at the age of 9 months.

Margaret C. married Alvin (Bun) Underwood. Their children were Margarie and Luetta.

Clifford married Loretta Randolph. Their children were Particia, Bill and A.C.

A portrait of the Samuel Cope family— Standing are L to R Lauretta, Anna, Alice, Jennie. Seated are Clinton, Samuel, Judge, Lottie and Susan.

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FROM THE PRECEEDING PAGE —

Thelma married Eugene (Bud) Burns. Their children were Gene, Thelma Lucille, Laverne and Vickie.

—2— Alice was married to Ernest Ferris. Their children were Samuel, Otho, Alice, Estelle, Velma and Thelma (twins). Alice later married Chas. Maclaskey.

—3— Jennie married Charles Maclaskey. Their children were Lizzie, Ida, Joe, Andrew, Sarah, Walter, Ethel and Edith.

—4— Lauretta married Charles Newman. Their children were Charles, Clinton, Hugh, Marie, John, Muriel and William.

—5— Lottie married Edson A. Jewett. Their children were Samuel, Eudora, Howard, Edson C., Mary, Melvin, Madeline (twins) and Burt.

—6— Judge was married to Miss Lula Briles. They had no children.

—7— Clinton married Bertha Wolff his first marriage, their children were Elmo, Irene and Cleo. After the death of Bertha Clinton was married to Irene Holmquest. She died Sept 30, 1944. After her death Clinton married a third time to Goldie Gordon.

—8— Edith the second child died in infancy.

The Clinton Cope family with other relatives. Standing at left is Rhea D. Campbell, Deane Campbell, Madeline Jewett, Clinton and wife Bertha Wolff Cope; children Elmo and Irene Cope. Down in front are Generva Campbell and Cleo Cope.

R. D. Campbell married Ida Wolff. She was a sister of Bertha. R. D. and Ida were parents of Edwin, Deans, Generva and Roy Campbell. Ida died Sept. 13, 1926 at age of 36 years and six months. R. D. died in January , 1972.

Madeline Jewett is a niece of Clinton Cope.

Clinton Cope was married to Bertha Wolff. They were the parents of Elmo, Irene and Cleo.

Elmo married Elma Weide, their children were Conradina, Larry Joe, Arlene and Darlene (twins), Bertha Dean and Steven.

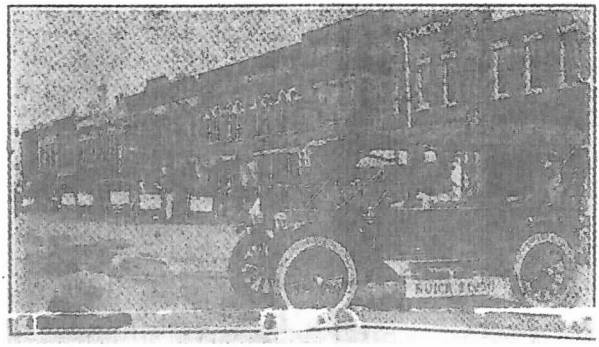
Irene married Donald Rose. Their children were Barbara, Sandra and Clinton David.

Cleo married Lois Ann Simpson. Their children are Susan, Debbie and Cindy.

This picture was taken to the east of what we call the old Light Hardware Building. The Star Theatre was run by a man named Crosby, and was where the present Bowling Alley is. The building to the right of it was the Kay and Holcomb Transfer. Four matched horses pulled the dray wagon. The Transfer building was formerly an open space where farmers coming to town could feed and rest their horses. The two-story building at left was the Dr. Kellenberger Building and small hospital.

The men on wagon—the driver was George Kay, next was George Holcomb and then Fred Southard. The young lady on the bench was Dorothy Pingrey, office girl for the Transfer Co. This picture was taken in 1915.

THE Y. C. B. M. L. BOOSTER-ADVERTISING TRIP



LINING UP FOR THE START, NORTH SIDE SQUARE

The Y.C.B.M.L. stood for the Yates Center Business Men's League, and this trip took place in July 1914.

On Friday at 7:30 a.m. thirty cars containing 133 men, lined up on the north side of the square and before 8 o'clock they were all off on their 100 mile booster and advertising trip.

A number who had arranged to make the trip, perhaps 25, were left behind because of that fact there were not enough cars available to accommodate them.

The first stop was at Vernon where they were welcomed by the hospitable hosts of the village. A special treat of ice cold drinks were served by the enterprising merchant establishment of J. H. Tannahill & Sons. J. S. Cantrell joined the boosters at this place with his new car, loaded with Vernon citizens. H. T. Laidlaw acted as speaker at this first stop and presented the purpose of the trip in a suitable manner.

The next step was made at Neosho Falls and this coming of the business men was in the nature of a surprise to the residents, they not having been informed of this trip. The neglect of the routing committee is very much regretable. It was occasioned on account of a misunderstanding of to who should make notification. Never the less the business men of the Falls heartily welcomed the visitors and entered into the spirit of the occasion. Rev. W. L. French made a talk which was right to the point.

Piqua was reached about 10 o'clock and the citizens were out in force to give us a glad hand. There was more handshaking at this place than any point along the line, numbers being considered. There is always a warm spot in the hearts of the Yates Center people for the citizens of Piqua.

In a short time we were again on the road for Iola. Making fine time and reaching there before 11 o'clock. A reception

committe in charge of Ira Kelley met the Yates Center Delegation about half way between Piqua and Iola and piloted us into their city and through their principal streets. The machines were finally brought to a halt in front of the Kelley Hotel, where we took dinner as the guests of the Iola Booster Club, an aggregation of real live boosters. At this point Charles Apt, in the absence of the mayor, welcomed us to the city in a very happy cordial way. The response was given by Hon. G. H. Lamb in his characteristic forceful style.

At 1:45 we were escorted out of Iola by the committee and continued on our way to Humboldt where we again met with a most hearty reception. Entertainment was given and refreshments served at this point and the same cordial welcome which characterized the trip through out extended. J.C. Culver was the orater here. He outlined the relation between that city and ours, refering to them as our elder sister.

The next stop was at the village of Petrolia where we were met by 18 cars from Chanute, loaded with their good fellows and boosters who escorted us into their city, and over about 15 miles of fine paved streets. At this point we had over 50 cars in one long procession. Chanute is the Queen city of the Neosho Valley.

We were stopped on the main street and invited to the roof garden where we received a hearty welcome from their young and progressive mayor.

Leaving Chanute at 5 o'clock we started on our longest drive for Buffalo, reaching there about 6 o'clock where we received the same happy manner as on previous stops. T. W. Hurst addressed the audience.

At 6:30 we were on the last drive homeward. The remarkable feature of the trip was that every car which started was home before 8 o'clock and each on its own wheels.

It's always fair weather when good fellows get together, but we arrived home just ahead of a big rain.

(Taken from the Woodson County Advocate.)

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CAR OF POTATOES SHIPPED FROM WOODSON COUNTY.

The first car load of potatoes ever shipped from Yates Center, in the history of the town was shipped to eastern markets last week by the Singleton Bros. The Democratic sun of prosperity is surely shining upon us with a fervency that is most agreeable, putting a crimp into the backbone of the calamity howlers and filling our graineries and store houses with the fat of the land.

(Taken from the Woodson County Advocate, Patterson, Editor, July, 1914)

CHERRY CREEK and IT'S TRIBUTARIES—

While Cherry Creek itself is a tributary of the main Owl Creek, Cherry Creek is quite a creek in itself. The main or central branch of Cherry Creek goes to within just over a mile from the Woodson Coffey county line and empties into Owl Creek about 14 miles as the crow flies to the southeast. Four branches of this creek cross what is known as the Vernon Road, one branch at Vernon, one about a mile east of Vernon. The central branch crosses the road about a mile west and the fourth about two miles west of the village. On a high bank along the west bank of where this latter stream crosses the road stood a schoolhouse for many years. It was Dist. No. 67, but generally known as "Possum Trot". We were told at one time that the school derived its name from that branch of Cherry that ran by it. But to now we have no confirmation about the name. One of the few of the W.P.A. ponds built in this county during the 1930's was on this stream about a half mile up stream from the schoolhouse, in the east half of section one. The "Possum Trot" schoolhouse has long been gone.

The branch that crosses the road a mile east of Vernon has its beginning about a mile north of the Vernon road , and empties into Cherry about three miles due south. One record in the County Commissioners journal states that the county was building a bridge across Lewis Creek, five miles north an five miles east of Yates Center. This is the stream that crosses the road a mile east of Vernon. Just where the name of Lewis came from we have not found out.

Plum Creek gathers water from around twenty sections of land to the west and to the south of Piqua before it empties into Cherry Creek at the southwest corner of Sec. 18, Twp. 25, R. 17. Attempts to organize a Cherry-Plum Creek Watershed started sometime in the middle 1950's. For sometime it had rather rough going in getting organized. Part of this was due to wild tales and misunderstanding.

It was in October, 1957 that it was legally organized with the seal of the State Board of Water Resources. Much work was done by the local Soil Conservation Service in surveying and mapping out this area, and they came up with the following figures. This watershed would take in 37,280 acres to equal 58.25 square miles. There is 39% in cropland, 55% in grassland, 6% in timber, 9% in the flood plain. This latter area is where Cherry empties into Owl Creek. The average annual damages estimated on these flood plains is $50,873 in bridges, roads, fences, crops, pasture and other. At least three large ponds with detention dams have been built on Plum Creek branches in the Piqua area, besides the regular ponds.

In the northwest quarter of section 27, Twp. 24, R. 16, along the banks of Cherry Creek are two family cemeteries. Just to the north of the old Santa Fe right-of-way where the store and postoffice of Lomanda was located are the graves of Lomanda Pierce and his wife. On down the creek possibly a quarter of a mile is the burying place of the Henry Stange family. On down the creek not far from where Cherry enters Owl Creek, where a small branch enters the creek is one of the oldest marked graves in this county. It is the grave of Frederick Coleman, and the date is March, 1858. Later in this same year Thomas Collins and daughter Mary McGannon were buried there but later moved. In an unmarked grave in this cemetery is the grave of John Coleman, a brother of Frederick. He was killed by a group of vigilantes. One story is that he was hung and another that he was shot. He had a wife Amanda and a small daughter. It was to their home that many of the first settlers came and stopped for awhile, as they would settle in that locality.

Thomas Collins and Mary McGannon were removed to the St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, about a mile to the west. It was established in 1868.

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Along the east side of Woodson County, just to the south of Piqua are some sloughs that drain into Allen County and with some others in that county form the head waters of Onion Creek. We do not know whether this stream empties into Owl Creek or the Neosho River. About two miles over into Allen County, is or was a school house called Onion Creek School.

To the south of Owl Creek , about a mile south of the Paralell Line is a stream known as Otter Springs Branch. It drains water mostly from sections 9, 10 and 15, Twp. 29 and range 17. The main springs seem to be in section 9. This stream crosses over into Allen County to the northeast corner of section 10. The story of this stream dates back to when the first settlers came into this area. A group of otters lived at the waterholes of pure clear water where the springs were. Ray Hays who was the historian of the Otter Springs vicinity once told the writer of this that some early day trapper found these otters and that one of the animals being caught broke a trap chain and for quite some time dragged this trap about as it would swim and hunt for food around these springs. When it was finally caught the springs and jaws of the trap were worn slick and bright as a silver dollar.

A short distance from where Otter Springs Branch enters

section 10 was a spring that was not so large, but ran a steady stream. This spring had been analyzed and contained several minerals that made for good drinking water. When this 80 acres that this spring was on belonged to some members of his family Joe Hunt of Yates Center built a spring house over where the water came out, and quite a lot of this water was sold in five gallon jugs. When this writer used to drive all over the county in our work we stopped several times at this spring house to eat our lunch. It was a cool place to eat and plenty of fresh, cool water running at all times. The spring house is now gone and the water from the spring being run into a tank.

Directly to the south of the Otter Springs Branch is another small creek that does not seem to have much banks so that whenever a rain of any amount falls it scatters over the bottoms. Perhaps that is where the name of Scatter Creek comes from. Gathering water from around six sections before entering Allen County. About a quarter mile inside Woodson County this creek divides and the main part of the stream goes to the north and west around the north side of the Quackenbos Hill, while a smaller branch goes to the south and west of the big hill. This latter stream gathers water from the gravel hills of that area. Evidently the land along Scatter Creek did not attract the attention of early pioneers as the larger creeks. The story is told that during the closing days of the Civil War, a young Union Scout, accompanied by some Indian scouts were crossing the southeast part of Woodson County, probably following the trail that went from Iola to the settlement along Buffalo Creek to the southwest. As the young soldier and his Indian companions rode across the head of this valley the lay of the land appealed to the young man whose name was Ira Nourse. He resolved that when the war was over he would come to this valley and file a claim. However it was not until after the war, that Nourse and two companions Wm. Dana and Charles Toland each filed a claim in the same section 22, Twp. 26 R. 17. They each filed on the same day in March, 1866.

Just over the ridge that divides the headwaters of Scatter Creek and water that flows to the south are several sloughs or drains that help make up the headwater of Woodruff Creek. As these drains enter into Wilson County they run into what is now the Buffalo Lake.

PATRONS OF WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

Milton & Virginia Schornick
Kenneth & Barbara Stockebrand
John V. Glades Agency
Street Abstract Co., Inc.
State Exchange Bank
Self Service Grocery
Steiner's Sundries
Piqua Farmer's Co-op
Morton Equipment Co.
Swope & Son Implement Co.
Superior Bldg. & Supply, Inc.
The Herring Families
Cantrell Hay Co.,
Craig Cantrell
Artex Manufacturing Co.
J. C. & Helene Schnell
Wilma Mark
Yates Center News
Smith's
Our Own Hardware
Pringle Ranch -
J. Richard Pringle
Atkin Rexall Pharmacy
Campbell Funeral Home
Glen & Zola Baker
Piqua State Bank
Laurence M. &
Alice Catherin Smith
Lynn and Gail Cantrell
Gaulding Oil Co.
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Ward
Clyde Hill
Kimbell Ranch-Ed. Kimbell
Hi-Way Food Basket
Atkin Clinic
Blackjack Cattle Co. Inc.
Ken Kimbell
Jaspers Shopping Spot
Daly Western Supply
Linde Barber Shop
Campbell Plmg. & Electric
Ted Spencer-Gen. Agent
Woodson Co. Farm Bureau
Jaynes Insurance Agency
Glenn Shaw
C.L. "Matty" & Luriel Mathews
Milton & Marcella Wrampe
Loren & Rita Cantrell
Al's Jewelry
Edwin G. Reid, St. Louis, MO
Rex Butler, Nashville, TN
Thomas Wilson
Bill Herman
Abbott & Ethel Crandall